THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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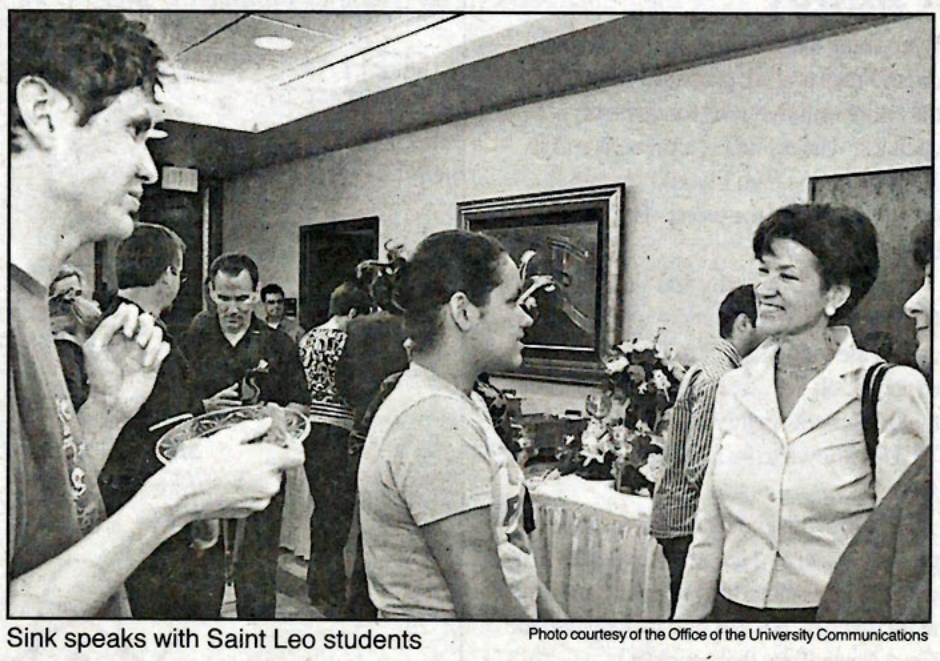
Former Florida CFO Alex Sink speaks to Saint Leo

BY JESSICA PALL and COLLIN GOOD
Lions' Pride Online Editor and Editor in Chief

Sink addresses an engaged crowd

Photo courtesy of the Office of the University Communications



Sink speaks with Saint Leo students

Photo courtesy of the Office of the University Communications

Despite rumors of arriving to protests, Alex Sink arrived at Saint Leo University on Mar. 30 in a style unseen for most politicians: on time, and to applause.

The Sunshine State News, which claims to be "the right source for business and politics," published an article on Sink's visit on Mar. 21. The article discussed potential for a protest to take place at Saint Leo upon her arrival by The Cardinal Newman Society, the same group which organized protests against President Obama last year at Notre Dame University.

Sink's pro-choice stance on the issue of a woman's right to choose is in conflict with the views of The Cardinal Newman Society. "A university exists to teach truth, and a Catholic university should be committed to teaching the horrible truth about abortion," said Patrick Reilly, the president of the Cardinal Newman Society. "Choosing a 'pro-choice' politician to lecture students on women's dignity, of all things, sends a dangerous message and is contrary to St. Leo University's Catholic mission."

The University responded to critics of the event with a statement, which read: "Saint Leo University is a Catholic, liberal-arts-based university serving people of all faiths. Rooted in the 1,500 year old Benedictine tradition, the university seeks balanced growth in mind, body and spirit for all members of its community."

"She has had a prominent career in public service and business, having served as Florida's chief financial officer, and before that having risen through the ranks of Bank of America in Florida to become head of Florida operations."

No protests were organized at the time of her arrival into the Greenfelder-Denlinger Boardrooms of the Student Community Center.

Sink, who was the keynote speaker in the School of Arts and Sciences celebration of Women's History Month, spoke to Saint Leo students, faculty, and community on how to successfully build a personal history.

Sink is a fiscally conservative Democratic Party politician who ran in the last race for governor against Rick Scott, losing by a one percent margin. She was the Chief financial officer for the State of Florida and Treasurer on the board of trustees of the Florida State Board of Administration.

"It is important to know that some aspects of your life you cannot control," Sink said, "But there are some aspects that you can control, so one should have a plan."

In introducing her talk, Sink reiterated the importance of listening to other viewpoints opposite of your own and to remain flexible, but at the same time, never stray from your own personal values, regardless of what comes your way.

Sink split her life into four quarters, with 20 year sections to discuss the lessons she has learned from her life.

In her first 20 years, Sink said that growing up in the Bible belt of the South, Mount Airy, N.C., gave her a solid foundation in learning the important core values. Her role models as a girl were her mother, teachers, and women of the Bible.

Answering an audience question, Sink said that her female role models today are Hillary Clinton who is travelling the world to find peace and the female representatives of the Supreme Court.

Sink admitted that she never dreamed of becoming a politician or having a successful business career, but stated that the lessons she learned as a girl helped her become who she is today.

Sink went on to become the president of Florida Operations at Bank of America. She was appointed to the Commission on government accountability to the people and served on Chiles' commission on education.

Additionally, Sink was vice-chair of Florida TaxWatch and has served with the Florida chapter of the nature conservancy, the Beth El Farm Workers Ministry, and as Chairman of the board of the United Way of Hillsborough county.

One of the most important lessons she learned was that God gives each one of us unique talents, and it is our job to use them. Sink encouraged the audience to use the talents God has given them.

In the second quarter of her life, Sink was immersed in her business career. Graduating with a B.A. in Mathematics, and with a minor in business from Wake University, Sink began working at a bank.

The most important lesson she learned during this phase was learning how to put a successful team together and be a leader. It was during this time also that she built a good professional reputation.

After becoming married and having children, she had another value to balance with her life. She balanced between her family, business, and career.

Sink told the audience that when running for any public office she always asks three questions: Do I want to run? Does my family support me? Do I have a good chance of winning?

Although Sink lost in the governor election, she stated that she focuses on the future and not the past.

"God must have different plans for me," Sink said. "I accept the will of the voters."

When asked if she will run again, Sink said, "I never say never, and at the appropriate time I will assess the situation again and make my decision."

Opinions

Nuclear crisis raises safety questions at home

BY GREG ROBINSON
Lions' Pride Multimedia Editor

The world has followed the crisis in Japan with feelings of shock and terror from the initial news of the earthquake and tsunami to the growing concern of a nuclear meltdown. Crews at the stricken Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactor have battled endlessly to cool a reactor, hoping to prevent a major nuclear incident.

The radiation is partially contained by a barrier put in place at the Fukushima Daiichi plant. Newer reactors are built with a steel and concrete containment system to prevent the release of radioactive material in the case of a meltdown. The reactor at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant did not have one of these containment walls and as a result a large amount of radioactive material was released into the atmosphere. The partial meltdown that occurred at the Three-mile island reactor in 1979, however, did have a containtment system, and most of the radiation was contained.

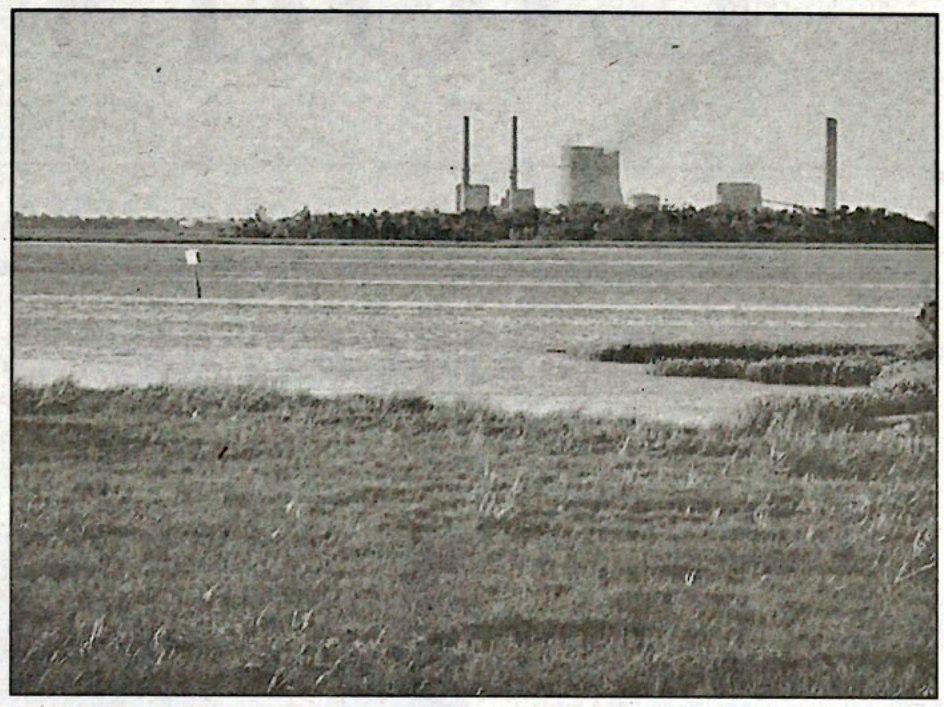
Workers at the Fukushima Daiichi reactor have tried any number of methods to contain the radiation, which has been leaking in increasing amounts since the disaster almost 5 weeks ago. One of the newest methods involves dumping tens of thousands of liters of a "sticky resin" into the reactor, according to The Wall Street Journal.

This ongoing nuclear crisis has raised several questions for nations with nuclear power plants. In the United States. Many in the Pasco/Hernando county area would be surprised to find out they are not so far from a nuclear facility. To the northwest of the Saint Leo campus, in Crystal River, Florida, there is a nuclear generating plant. The United States NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission), on their website http://www.nrc.gov, have the Crystal River facility located approximately 80 miles north of Tampa.

The nuclear facility in Crystal River is not quite the same as the Fukishima Daiichi reactor. The nearby facility is a pressurized water reactor, not a boiling water reactor like the one in Japan.

With a nuclear generation plant nearby, the question must inevitably be asked, especially during a time where nuclear power is under scrutiny: How safe is this nuclear plant?

Fortunately, the NRC keeps detailed safety and maintaince records available on their website. According to these reports, the steam generators at the Crystal River facility were replaced as recently as 2009. During this replacement a crack in the concrete of the containing wall was discovered. Further investigation revealed that the crack in the 42 inches of concrete had not damaged the steel liner beneath, and thus the integrity of the containment wall was maintained.



Crystal River nuclear power plant — Photo courtesy of www.cleanenergyinsight.org

More information on this issue is available on the NRC's website along with numerous public documents, http://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/reactor/cr3/concrete-containment-separation.html.

Full documentation of inspections and records are also available on the website and reveal a good safety record for the plant. The most recent inspection, from the 4th quarter of 2010, show satisfactory marks in all areas listed.

It is unlikely that an earthquake of that magnitude would ever strike Florida, since the state does not rest on a major active fault line.

However, there is the possibility of a hurricane, although it would take one of tremendous proportions to penetrate all 42 inches of solid concrete and steel.

Deejay's Musings

Things I want to yell about

BY DANA JENNINGS
Lions' Pride Opinion Editor

* We have a nuclear facility close by (relatively). Crystal River is rated to withstand hurricanes, but should we still be scared?

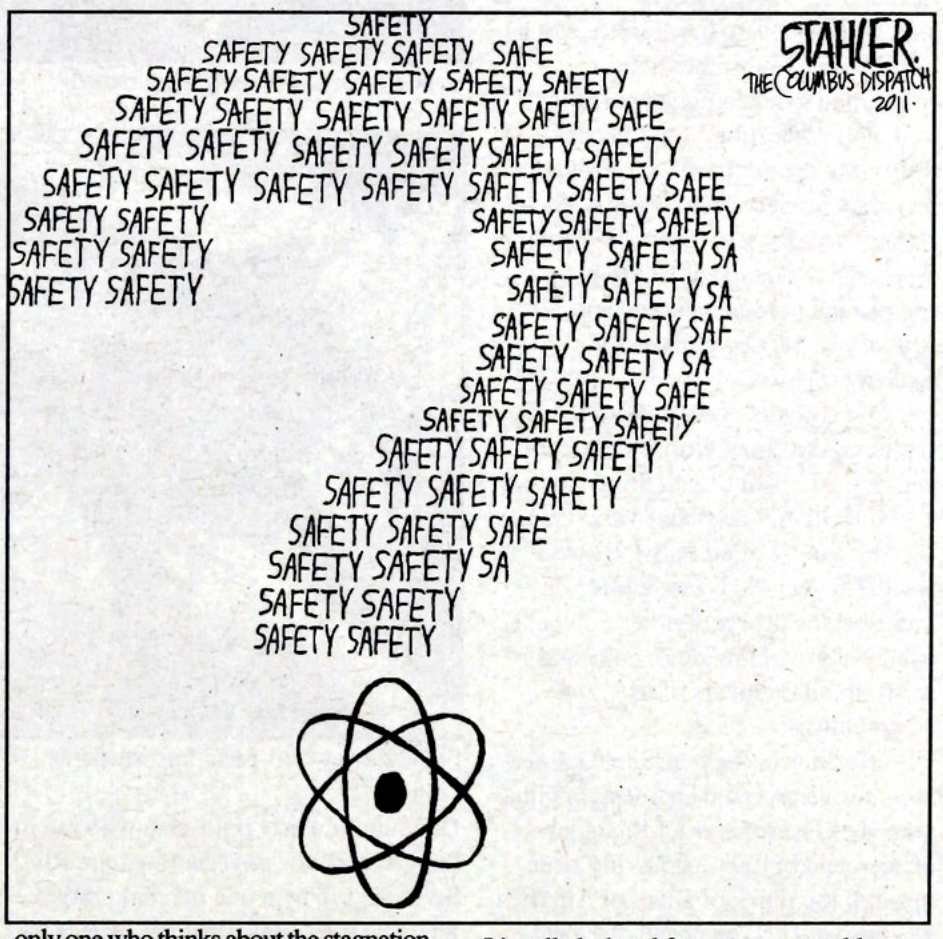
* I don't think that adding nuclear winter worries to the masses is the thing to do. Should we be concerned? Of course. Everything that could go wrong basically did in Japan and we probably won't know the entire ramifications for years or decades. Unless this is a precursor to a 2012 endgame then I would say we shouldn't expect the worst. But we should be prepared for it.

* Butler University and Virginia Commonwealth University wreaked havoc and made many higher ranked teams and experts look very, very foolish. We forget that Butler was in the finals last year, and VCU is known to be a quality basketball school.

* Does this indicate a failure in the ranking system? I believe it indicates that every team is incredibly talented, and any team that gets hot can find its way into the Final Four. Take that brackets!

* Saint Leo was underwater for a few days, and many new rivers were discovered on the roads and walkways. Students were witnessed having a ball and frolicking in the bowl, standing and diving into water that was nearly thigh deep.

* I am all for having fun in the rain and enjoying the little things in life, but am I the only one who thinks about the stagnation of the water that is sitting in the bowl? Zephyrhills bottled water most definitely comes from nowhere similar to the bowl. It's called a bowl for a reason; would you go near water that sat on your counter in a bowl for a week or more? Get some shots!



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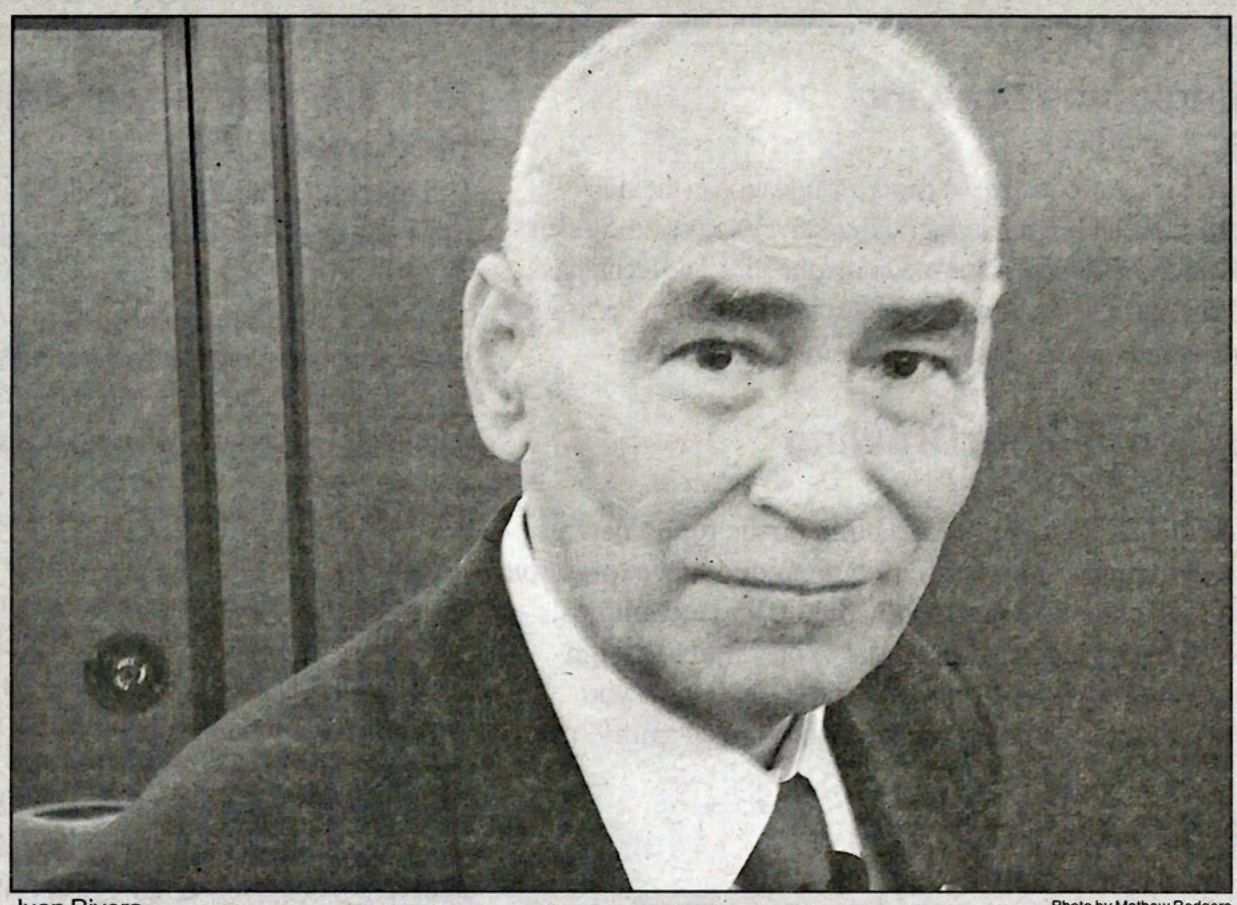
WRITE HERE

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in the Student Activities Center, office 106. Our phone number is (352) 588-8316. Send letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride: 33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574 or email us at lions.pride@saintleo.edu. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing. *The Lions' Pride* reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

Dinner with a spy at Saint Leo University

Former CIA Official comes to campus

BY MATHEW RODGERS
Lions' Pride Staff Writer



Juan Rivera

Photo by Mathew Rodgers

On March 23 the Criminal Justice Department sponsored the "Dinner with a Spy Lecture". The event was held in the Greenfelder-Denlinger Boardroom in the Student Community Center, where food was served prior to the lecture. The speaker was Juan Rivera, J.D., a retired CIA case officer, which is the official title for what is commonly known as a spy. Rivera's topic of discussion was "Seeking Stability, Transparency and Social Justice in a Complex World".

During the first part of his lecture he talked briefly about working for the Central Intelligence Agency, a job which he held for over twenty years. Rivera explained that he had been to countries around the world chasing narcotics traffickers and international terrorists. Rivera's job was to gather intelligence. He did this mainly by recruiting informants that had access to pertinent information, the main tool for recruitment being money. Rivera stated that when meeting a potential informant the most important thing you can get is a second meeting.

"All and all, I have lived the kind of life that movies are made of. And through it all, I have kept my faith and sense of humor". Rivera states in regards to his time working for the CIA

During the question segment of the lecture Rivera was asked how one goes about becoming a CIA officer. Rivera explained that the application was on cia.gov, but the requirements for becoming a CIA officer are very strict. Things that will help your chances of getting hired are having a pertinent degree, being multilingual, being of a nondescript physical appearance and being ex-military.

The second part of Rivera's lecture was about the potential for increased violence in regards to domestic terrorism and U.S foreign policies. Rivera talked about a radical religion, one that he did not name, that was intolerant of other religions and is an adversary to the United States. This radical religion is very capable of violence and more organized than the common person would believe.

Rivera also spoke of how our policies in the Middle East were not making us any friends and that we carried them out largely with violence instead of diplomacy. He said that the increase in communication between the FBI and CIA was a step in the right direction, but maintained that more steps needed to be taken to insure the prevention of a domestic terrorist attack.

The Meaning of the "QEP" to Saint Leo Students

Dr. Trish Parrish is a professor of education and one of the administrators for Saint Leo's "QEP." She explains the new concept in this interview.

Question: What is the QEP and what does it have to do with students?

Dr. Trish Parrish: Well, the QEP is an acronym that stands for the Quality Enhancement Plan. It's really all about the education you're going to receive at Saint Leo University. Everyone at the university is going to be working together to make sure that your educational experience stresses critical thinking skills in combination with our core values to help inform the decisions that you'll be making in your future. So it's really critical thinking applied with the core values of excellence, personal development, community, respect, integrity, and responsible stewardship. This is really a powerful combination and we believe it is going to equip students well for decision making.

Question: What decision making are you talking about? What decisions?

Dr. Parrish: We're really thinking about ways, when you receive information, and you're getting ready to make a decision, that you can analyze and evaluate that information. And look at it through the core values to decide if it's good information, if it's useful information, and once you do that, you can apply that in a solid way to make an informed decision. Decisions may be in your academic classes: What's the best solution to a case study that you're presenting? It could be: Am I really making the best use of my time when I look at the activities I'm performing, and the tasks that I need to accomplish? Even more importantly, when you move forward after receiving your degree from Saint Leo, you'll have skills to make really solid decisions in your life. It can be, how can you make the right job choice—analyzing opportunities and figuring out which path is right for you. We can really see this applying—we hope—to enhance your life throughout your life.

Question: How does this enhance what we have now?

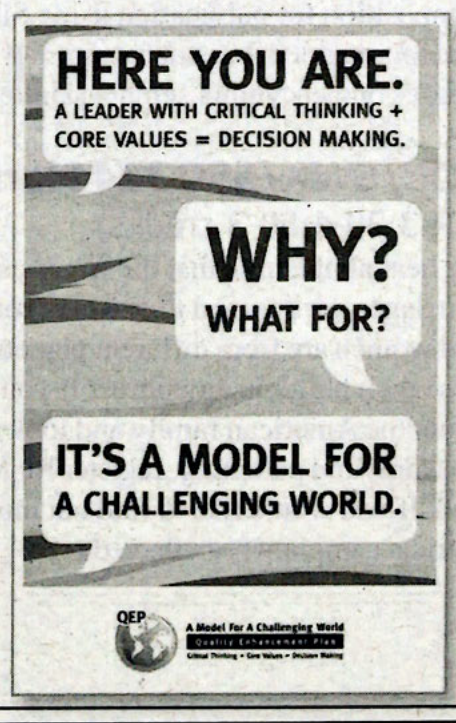
Dr. Parrish: Students at Saint Leo already receive a strong education. We have a focus on values in all of our courses. This is helping you take that one step further. It's not just knowing the values and being able to recite the six values. It's really looking at how these values fit with the values you already have, and how do you combine those with critical thinking skills, which again, we already know you get in your classes. But we want to help develop a vocabulary that we can all use as a community around critical thinking. It is going to help you fit those two pieces together. We can help to bring it all together in a meaningful way, and that's why it's an enhancement.

Question: Why is this coming up now?

Dr. Parrish: Well, we are always trying to make our curriculum better. It really is just a part of our routine at Saint Leo to try and improve what we already do. But it comes up now, in this formal way because Saint Leo is part of a regional accrediting body. There's an external agency that looks at the education you receive here and says, "Yes, they're doing what they need to." As part of that process, our external agency, which is the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (we often refer to it as SACS), they require us to have a formal process to enhance student education. SACS is looking at our institution very closely right now, as they do once every 10 years as a normal course of business, to make sure we are giving our students everything that they need. So we have taken what we always do and we are trying to push it to the next level with this opportunity.

Question: How will this affect our degree programs?

Dr. Parrish: We're hoping it is going to increase the value of your degree to you. But it is not going to require existing students to take any additional courses to finish your degree. We're hoping that we'll see faculty members beginning to incorporate the QEP in their courses within the disciplines. So you might find that you're doing a different type of activity, or that an activity is tweaked to bring all of these pieces together for you within a course.


HERE YOU ARE.
A LEADER WITH CRITICAL THINKING + CORE VALUES = DECISION MAKING.
WHY?
WHAT FOR?
IT'S A MODEL FOR A CHALLENGING WORLD.
QEP
A Model For A Challenging World
Quality Enhancement Plan

School of Arts and Sciences Spring Course Offerings

Did you know that you can take courses in...

ART 221: Beginning Drawing

(T 8:00-10:50 3 credits)

This studio art course is created to give students a foundation in the skills necessary for freehand sketching, rendering, and creative expression. Students will experience a variety of monochrome mediums, theories, and techniques. Drawing is a skill that not only can be an enjoyable pastime but an asset to any career field. For more information contact trisha.toms@saintleo.edu

ART 200: Intermediate Drawing

(R 8:00-10:50 3 credits)

This advanced studio course continues to build on the fundamentals developed in the Drawing course, furthering the individual expression of the student and introducing color media, theory and techniques. Students will be able to bring more personal expression to assignments and explore their own creativity and sense of style. If you would like to find out more, please contact trisha.toms@saintleo.edu

ART 100 Beginning Sculpture

(TR 11:00 3 credits)

This class will be a hands-on studio experience that lets the student explore media like plaster, clay, fiberglass and wood—just to name a few. Casting, modeling and assembling are only a few of the techniques that will be studied. The class will focus on creating relief and full-round dimensional sculptures - starting with sketches and bringing those ideas to life. If you would like to find out more, please contact douglas.schiffbauer@saintleo.edu

FAS 100 The Broadway Musical

(MW 3:30 3 credits)

This course will follow the development of American Musical Theatre from its roots in minstrels, burlesques and 18th and 19th century European forms through its variations of the 20th century and beyond with emphasis placed on social relevance. If enrolled students are interested, there will be an opportunity to rehearse scenes and musical numbers from relevant plays as well as an informal public performance at the close of the semester.The course is taught by Selena Ambush, Director and Educator. If you would like to find out more, please contact kurt.wilt@saintleo.edu

MUS 200 Music Technology

(TR 5:00 to 7:50 3 credits)

Music Technology introduces students to the world of music production and recording. Students will learn to use Ableton Lite software, a program for creating, recording and producing music along with Sibelius, a notational software. Learn to create tracks and build a song from the ground up using Ableton Lite, and then to notate your composition for publication using Sibelius. Being able to read music is recommended, but not required. If you would like to find out more, please contact cynthia.selph@saintleo.edu

SOC/SWK/SSC 324 Marriage and Family

(TR 3:30-4:50 3 credits)

We hear all the time that the American family is in decline; that marriages are doomed to end in divorce; that in relationships, men and women are from different planets; that parents don't know how to raise their children anymore... If you would like to learn the facts about the American family and look at some solid research on relationships and parenting, register for Marriage and the Family next Fall. If you would like to find out more, please contact patricia.campion@saintleo.edu

PHI 309: History of Philosophy I: Ancient to Medieval

(MWF 12:30-1:20 3 credits)

"The unexamined life is not worth living" ~Socrates

If you like to probe the origins of some of our basic "big picture" ideas, this is the course for you. PHI 309 is about major thinkers and schools of thought from Socratics (6th century BCE) to Saint Thomas Aquinas (13th century CE) and late medieval Christian mysticism.

These important thinkers have had an enduring influence on the fundamental ideas and concepts that have found their way into fields as diverse as psychology, education, management, marketing, sociology, political science, literature, and theology, to name just a few. Examining their views helps us re-examine ideas that have grown so familiar we often no longer realize how controversial they may be.

Basic themes and concepts that will be discussed include: appearance, reality, change, relativism, being, essence, existence, nature, form, matter, soul, freedom, will, god, community, virtue, and happiness.

This course is an excellent elective if you are in English literature, history, political science, sociology, or psychology. This is also an excellent course to take if you are thinking of going into law, since a large part of the work we do is critically examine arguments and assumptions. Finally, this course will help you graduate with a Major in Religion, a Minor in Philosophy, or a Minor in Ethics and Social Responsibility. If you would like to find out more, please contact aaron.Fehir@saintleo.edu

PHI 345: Contemporary Moral Issues

(MWF 1:30-2:20 PM 3 credits)

World poverty! Immigration! War! Torture! The environment! Racism! Gender inequality! Cloning! Abortion! Euthanasia! This is a course in which you are encouraged to develop your own position on issues we encounter weekly in the news. You get to discuss articles, videos, and cases on hot topics, and journal on them in a class wiki.

Many of the issues at stake are raised in the various mission trips that occur during Spring Break. If you intend to join in a mission trip during Spring Break, this is a perfect opportunity to develop a personal reflection on your mission trip experience and get credit for it. Even if you don't intend to join in a mission trip, taking this course is an excellent opportunity to get credit for reflecting on issues that you are probably already concerned with. It will allow you to further develop your ideas on current important issues.If you would like to find out more, please contact astrid.vicas@saintleo.edu

REL 470 Christology - Jesus with a Human Face

(TR 11:00AM -12:20 3 credits)Do you have questions, concerns, and hopes about Jesus? How was He human? [Was he play acting?] How was He divine? [Did He know all the answers?] Join us to discuss, share, and learn with others about Jesus, "the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Explore also what others have to say about Jesus from a liberation theology/social justice perspective, from a feminist perspective, etc. Do you want to grow spiritually, theologically, and humanly? This new course in Christology [upper tier] can make that real difference in your everyday life 24/7. For further information, contact michael.coopersj@saintleo.edu

Academic Excellence Day

April 14, 2011

Academic Excellence Day

Modified Class Schedule

Original Start Time	Original End Time	New Start Time	New End Time
8:00 AM	9:20 AM	8:00 AM	8:35 AM
9:30 AM	10:50 AM	8:40 AM	9:15 AM
11:00 AM	12:20 PM	9:20 AM	9:55 AM
12:30 PM	1:50 PM	10:00 AM	10:35 AM
2:00 PM	3:20 PM	10:40 AM	11:15 AM
3:30 PM	4:50 PM	11:20 AM	11:55 AM
4:00 PM	5:20 PM	12:00 PM	12:35 PM
4:30 PM	5:50 PM	12:00 PM	12:35 PM

REL 432: Christian Spirituality

(TR 8:00-9:20 3 credits)

Prerequisite: REL 123, REL 124, REL 201, or REL 223

WHAT DO YOU SEEK?

You need a religion class .

You're a Christian student who desires to grow in faith.

Here's a class that can keep on enriching your life long after you graduate.

The class will introduce the topic Spirituality and then examine Benedictine spirituality. My teaching will be both informational and experiential. I love the tradition and know it to be a spiritual force into which any Christian can tap.

Maybe you or someone you know should consider this course to share in a deeper way the Benedictine heritage of Saint Leo University.

If you would like to find out more about this course, please contact Sr. Mary David Hydro, mary.david.hydro@saintleo.edu

ANT 121 Introduction to Anthropology

(TR 12:30 3 credits)

Welcome to Anthropology. Because anthropology introduces students to the ways different cultures throughout our planet think and interact it is one of the most sought after fields of study in the business world. This anthropology course offers an exciting and fresh look at contemporary human beings and their ancestors, and the diversity of their experiences. Students will develop a concise knowledge of different human lifestyles and practices, and different levels of biological and social developments from various parts of the world. They will look at human nature and culture through various films, readings, discussions, group work, and lectures. During the semester, we will venture into the real world through various organized fieldwork trips, where we will engage in personal interviews and participant-observations. Through various anthropological exercises, students will develop the skills most desired in today's job market. This course will take you around the world in a semester. If you would like to find out more, please contact linda.tavernier-almada@saintleo.edu

PSY 400 Special Topics: The Psychology of Leadership and Management

(MWF 11:30 3 credits)

What is an effective leader? This new course focuses on learning about and applying leadership theories. Leadership traits, women as leaders, and cross cultural differences will be explored along with effective leadership behaviors such as managing images, developing relationships, and deploying resources. A model for strategic leadership and the relationship between leadership and management behaviors will be examined. If you would like to find out more, please contact kevin.kieffer@saintleo.edu.

PSY 341: Psychology of Parenting

(TR 10:30 3 credits)

How can parents be successful in raising their children? Do all children benefit from the same parenting strategies? Why do some parents harm their children and how can child abuse be prevented? How do parent/child relationships change over the lifespan? These are just a few of the questions that will be discussed in the new course, Psychology of Parenting. This course will include discussions, active learning assignments, and a service project where students can apply what they have learned. This course is open to majors and non-majors. If you would like to find out more, please contact tammy.zacchilli@saintleo.edu

ENG 300: The Graphic Novel

(MWF 2:30 3 credits)

The Graphic Novel is a special topics survey course designed to introduce upperclassmen to the transatlantic world of twentieth and twenty-first century sequential art (a cross-discipline genre that intersects with literature, cinema, and illustration) and the growing body of scholarship that validates it as a both a legitimate and respectable form of narrative. Primary texts to be examined (in either whole or part) include texts by many of the important names in the industry, such as, Neil Gaiman (U.K.), Scott McCloud (U.S.), Frank Miller (U.S.), Allan Moore (U.K.), Marjane Satrapi (Iran), Art Spiegelman (U.S.), and a few upstarts you may have never heard of. Prerequisites for the course are ENG 121, ENG 122, and ENG 220 (or, special permission of the instructor). If you would like to find out more, please contact burgsbee.hobbs@saintleo.edu

Arts & Entertainment

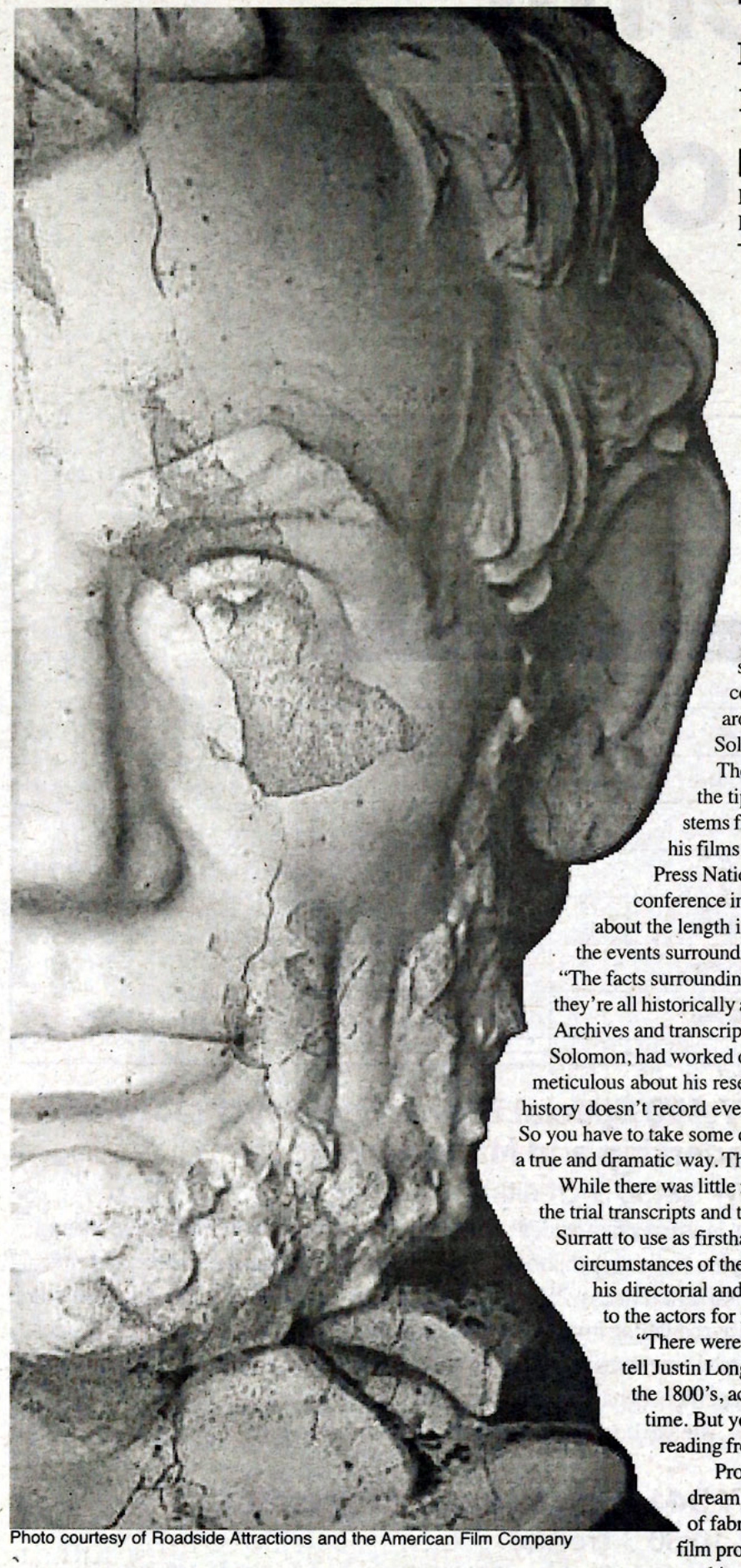


Photo courtesy of Roadside Attractions and the American Film Company

THE Conspirator

Discovering the truth in Hollywood

BY BROOKE KING
Lions' Pride Entertainment Editor

For far too long, the film industry has been cranking out Oscar gems like *Jonah Hex (*starring Megan Fox) and *Gulliver's Travels* (starring Jack Black). In complete contrast, Robert Redford's *The Conspirator* brings back to the big screen the integrity and accuracy that has been sorely lacking.

The Conspirator depicts the story of Mary Surratt (Robin Wright), the only woman to ever have been convicted and hanged for the assassination of President Lincoln. The story infuses both the unraveling of the plot to murder Lincoln, and the tumultuous times that proceeded after the end of the Civil War. Redford argued that the reason why he took on such a film was that it was a fresh take and a new angle on a story that had already been told.

"In *The Conspirator*, events trigger an emotional struggle between Mary and Frederick Aiken [Surratt's attorney played by James McAvoy] that challenges their conceptions of duty, honor, and loyalty. How they respond to those challenges creates this compelling story. You have to find a new way to take history and make it interesting, and I think we've accomplished that," said Redford.

While the plot itself is compelling and interesting, the intense accuracy of the film lends itself as the very best of what the historical film genre has to offer. The level of accuracy in the film stands alone. It is the film's crowning achievement, and one that Redford expressed was his main concern. The script for the movie, while it had been around in Hollywood for some time, took James D. Solomon 18 years to research and write.

The challenge of writing the script, however, was only the tip of the iceberg. The accuracy of the production stems from Redford's extraordinary gift for integrity within his films. When interviewed at the Associated Collegiate Press National Journalism Convention private press conference in Los Angeles, California on Mar. 5, Redford spoke about the length in which he took to create an accurate depiction of the events surrounding the trial of Mary Surratt.

"The facts surrounding the case we explore in *The Conspirator*, I believe they're all historically accurate. They were drawn from the National Archives and transcripts from the trial and other sources. The writer, Jim Solomon, had worked on the script for something like 15 years and was meticulous about his research. We also hired historians to vet the script but history doesn't record every single moment, every conversation, or thought. So you have to take some dramatic license and fill in those gaps, and do that in a true and dramatic way. That is interesting to me," said Redford.

While there was little material to go on, Solomon used the trial transcripts and the diary entries of both Aiken and Surratt to use as firsthand accounts of the trial, time period,and circumstances of their own personal lives. Redford, known for his directorial and producing expertise, lends much of the talent to the actors for researching their characters.

Photo by Greg Robinson

Redford speaking at the Associated Collegiate Press National Journalism Convention private press conference in Los Angeles, California on Mar. 5, 2011.

"There were several times throughout production that I had to tell Justin Long [who played Union officer Nicholas Baker] it was the 1800's, act and talk like it. In that regard, you have to honor the way people really spoke at that period of time. But you have to balance that with going too far in that direction; otherwise it sounds like somebody reading from a proclamation," said Redford.

Producing history is hit or miss, and can ultimately be an utter disaster. However, Redford and his dream team make every detail of the film as accurate as possible. From the size of Surratt's cell to the type of fabric and clothing she wore, no detail was spared, and no corners were cut. In the press release for the film producer Brian Falk addressed the issue of making everything as real as possible. "Every department on this picture has gone to great lengths to make sure that what you see in the frame is as close to what it would have been in 1865 Washington," said Falk.

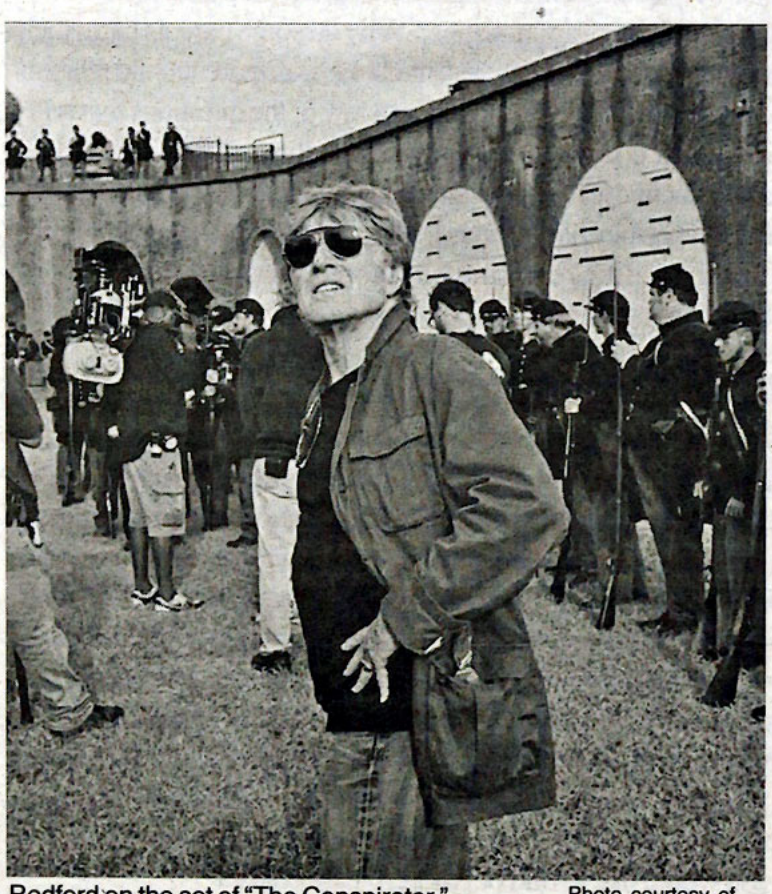
From the production designer to the costume designer, and from the director of photography to the director himself, everyone on Redford's team worked to construct the most truthful historical photographic and cinematic references. One of the many agreements on the realistic approach to the film was the accuracy of how Washington, D.C. was depicted.

"When thinking about depicting Washington, circa 1865, I was struck by the difficulty of depicting it realistically. I wanted to show both how rural and undeveloped it was back then, while at the same time, showing how little times have changed," said Redford.The only place relevant that Redford found to depict this setting was Savannah, Georgia. However, the irony lies in the setting itself. General Sherman burned Atlanta to the ground during the Civil War, but left Savannah so that the federal architecture could be preserved, and thus leaving Redford the perfect place to film the execution of the conspirators in the Lincoln assassination.

Though there are plenty of double standards on the set of the film, the double standards of justice lay within the film itself, leaving the audience to question the level of justice in today's modern government. Redford explicitly cites that the merit of the film mirrors current political issues.

"The country at that time, almost 150 years ago, was in a very fearful place. The South and the North had been in such a vicious contest with each other and the peace was very fragile. So when Lincoln was assassinated, the fear of something uncontrollable breaking loose forced the Union leadership into a kind of behavior that's very similar to some of our behavior over the last several years. The story of T*he Conspirator* raises questions about a nation's survival, and about how we respect our laws, and even our Constitution. I'm always drawn to stories about America, not just as a country, but as a "concept" of who we are or aspire to be. Those aspirations and ideals are the basis from which our country was founded. They have the ability to inspire greatness and at times, they have the ability to corrupt our judgment. It's human nature, and I find stories that expose the humanity of our ideals fascinating. It's these intimate human stories that become so revealing about America, and to me this is one of those stories."

When the cards are on the table and the Oscars come back around for another year, Redford's *The Conspirator* is going to not only generate much deserved Oscar buzz, but will be an iconic film that will be remembered for its stunning cinematography, screen play, and the film's seasoned director Robert Redford. Though known to most as the actor who played Butch Cassidy, Redford has brought a crucial implementation back to Hollywood as a director: the truth and accuracy of film.



Redford on the set of "The Conspirator." Photo courtesy of Roadside Attractions

One bullet killed the president

BY LINDSAY RENNER
Lions' Pride Advertising Editor

The tag line almost says it all, but not quite: "One bullet killed the president. But not one man."

Robert Redford's newest film, The Conspirator explores the complex relationships and consequences of several of the actors in the Lincoln assassination.

The film begins at a party the night of Lincoln's assassination. From there, the viewer is introduced to Frederick Aiken (portrayed by James McAvoy), a Civil War veteran being honored for his courage under fire. As the time progresses a little further, the film begins to interweave the pending assassination of Lincoln with the joviality of the party. As it gets closer to Booth's shooting , the shots and camera angles become much quicker and much more confusing to follow, lending the film the air of uncertainty and fear that almost certainly accompanied Lincoln's shooting.

Mary Surratt (Robin Wright) being led to the gallows.

Robin Wright and James McAvoy in a scene from "The Conspirator."

Redford and McAvoy on set during filming of "The Conspirator."

All photos courtesy of Roadside Attractions

Seven men and one woman were arrested and charged with a variety of crimes following the night of Lincoln's assassination, in which Secretary of State William Seward was also attacked. While the film infuses elements of the plot to assassinate Lincoln along with the chaos the country fell into following the President's demise, it focuses mainly on Surratt (Robin Wright Penn) and Surratt's attorney Aiken.

The viewer is introduced to her after Lincoln has already been assassinated, and after Booth's capture and death which takes up a relatively small portion of time in the film.

Despite having strong aspirations to become a lawyer and follow in the footsteps of Secretary Edwin Stanton (played by Kevin Kline), Aiken is conflicted when Reverdy Johnson (played by Tom Wilkinson in one of his finer roles) thrusts upon him the chance to defend Surratt. Aiken faces an ethical dilemma: does he adhere to the Union for which he fought and was injured, or to the ethics of his profession and defend the woman he has been charged with representing? The conflict of ideology between Aiken and Surratt is fully evident, and provides the film with an air of tension that pages in a history book cannot quite convey.

As the film moves, the viewer sees Aiken and Surratt become much more at ease with each other. They are able to push aside their conflicting ideologies in regards to the war to better fight her case. Although, as history dictates, the effort is ultimately unsuccessful, it is the personal relationship that ends up gaining the necessary victory.

Although slow moving at points, The Conspirator manages to keep one's interest the entire course of the film. History tends to get lost in translation, but director Robert Redford did a successful job bringing the pages of history onto the silver screen for a film experience that is compelling, moving, and interesting even to those who may not be so concerned with events in history.

For the Sudoku puzzle and other cartoons, please visit Lions' Pride Online at:
www.
prideonline.saintleo.edu

Editor's iPod Playlist

Featured Editor : Cheralyn Barrington
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

"Alexithymia"
Anberlin
Cities

"It's Tricky"
Run DMC
Raising Hell

"Empty Walls"
Serj Tankian
Elect the Dead

"I'm in Here"
Sia
We Are Born

"What's Up?"
4 Non Blondes
Bigger, Better, Faster, More!

"Rolling in the Deep"
Adele
21

"Fallen Leaves"
Billy Talent
Billy Talent II

"Tighten up"
The Black Keys
Brothers

"Do You Realize??"
The Flaming Lips
Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots

"Hide and Seek"
Imogen Heap
Speak for Yourself

STAHLER.
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH. 2011
LIZ TAYLOR 1932-2011
THOSE VIOLET EYES, HER BEAUTY, CHARISMA, TALENT...
WATCH IT, BUB... YOU MAY BE JOINING HER.

Sports

Saint Leo inducts nine student-athletes into honor society

BY JESSICA PALL
Lions' Pride Online Editor

Saint Leo Athletics will induct nine new student-athletes into the Zeta Chapter of the National College Athlete Honor Society this spring.

The society will have a total of 19 students, with the new inductees joining the group of ten seniors inducted last spring.

The 2011 inductees and their accumulated GPA's are:

-Men's cross country
Mike Berry, 3.5
-Women's volleyball
Danielle Bletso, 3.53
-Women's swimming
Allison Cary, 3.58
-Women's golf
Suzanne Ervin, 3.86
-Men's soccer
Jake Hirst, 3.56
-Men's tennis
Yves Jacobs, 3.87
-Men's golf
Tom Lynn, 3.52
-Men's tennis
Jose Morales, 3.50
-Women's volleyball
Corey Ryan, 3.66
-Women's soccer
Pia Soesemann, 3.90

As of right now, men's senior soccer Bruce Cutler holds the highest accumulated GPA with 3.98 and women's soccer Pia Sosemann comes second with 3.90 GPA.

National Athletic Honor Society Medals

Photo Courtsey of Mike Carlson

On Saturday morning, April 2, the new honor students participated in a community service project as part of their application process. The group helped build a house with Habitat for Humanity. The induction ceremony will take place April 12.

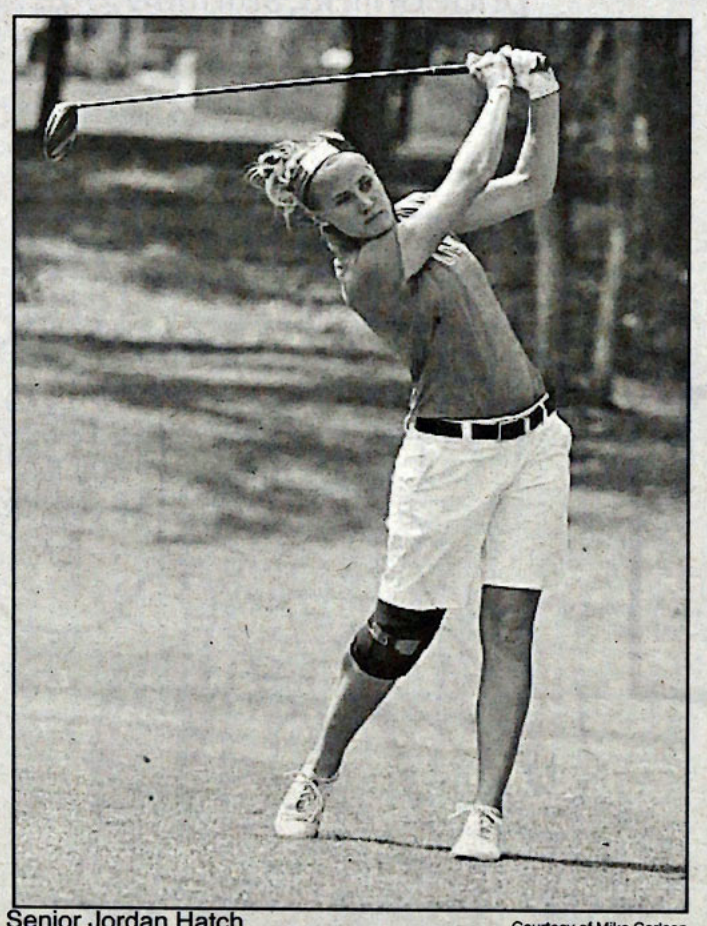
Chi Alpha Sigma is the first National College Athlete Honor Society to honor collegiate student-athletes who have excelled in both the classroom and athletics. To become a member of the society, a student athlete must have received a varsity letter in their sport while earning a 3.50 or higher cumulative GPA after five full time semesters of enrollment.

This year has seen great results with athletes balancing their athletic schedules with academics. A total of 52 student-athletes were recognized members of the President's Club for the 2010 fall semester. There were seven 4.0 grade-point averages on this list and eight students with 3.90 grade point average or better.

Saint Leo women's golf team placed first in the 2011 Pinehurst Challenge on March 21-22. Jordan Hatch received the Individual Crown while Goeun Lee claimed third for Saint Leo. The Lions' next match up will be the SSC Championships on April 18-19.

Senior Suzanne Ervin

Courtesy of Mike Carlson



Senior Jordan Hatch

Courtesy of Mike Carlson

Junior Tricia Maloney

Courtesy of Mike Carlson